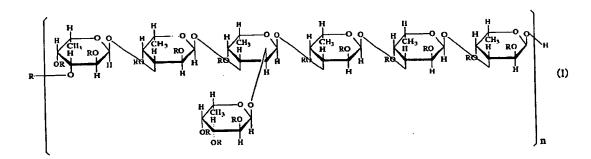
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

 A sulfated fucan oligosaccharide obtainable by the method comprising:

allowing a sulfated fucan-digesting enzyme derived from Alteromonas $sp.\ SN-1009$ to act on the substance selected from the group consisting of:

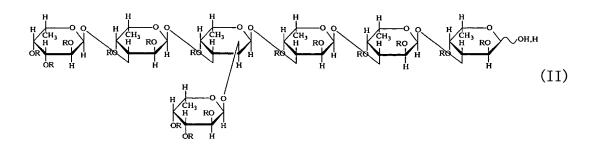
a sulfated fucan having the following chemical and physical properties:

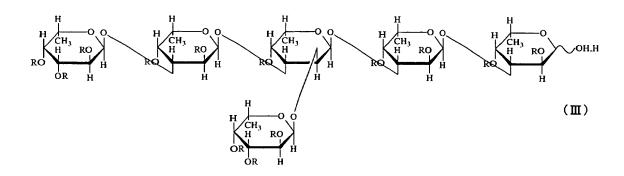
- (1) containing fucose as a constituting saccharide;
- (2) containing a sulfated saccharide of general formula (I) as an essential component of the constituting saccharide:

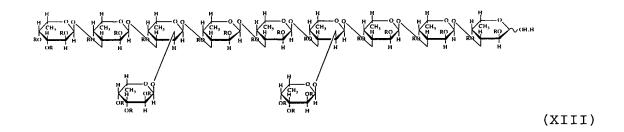


wherein R is H or SO_3H , at least one of R's is SO_3H and n is an integer of 1 or more; and

(3) being converted into smaller molecules by a sulfated fucan-digesting enzyme derived from Alteromonas sp. SN-1009 to generate at least one compound of general formulas (II), (III), (XIII), (XIV), (XV) and (XVI):







and

wherein R is H or SO_3H , at least one of R's is SO_3H in all formulas above, and

a sulfated fucan oligosaccharide of general formula (I):

wherein R is H or SO_3H , at least one of R's is SO_3H and n is 1 to 5; and

collecting a digestion product.

2. A degradation product of sulfated fucan obtainable by the method comprising:

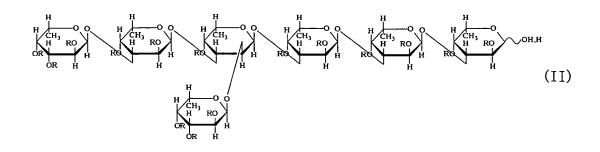
allowing a sulfate fucan-digesting enzyme derived from Alteromonas $sp.\ SN-1009$ to act on the substance selected from the group consisting of:

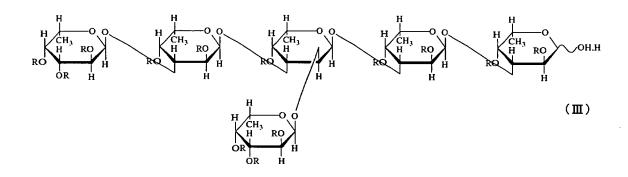
a sulfated fucan having the following chemical and physical properties:

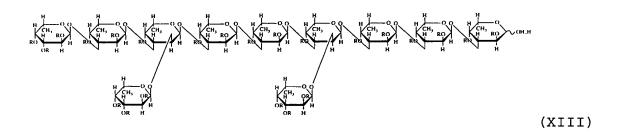
- (1) containing fucose as a constituting saccharide;
- (2) containing a sulfated saccharide of general formula (I) as an essential component of the constituting saccharide:

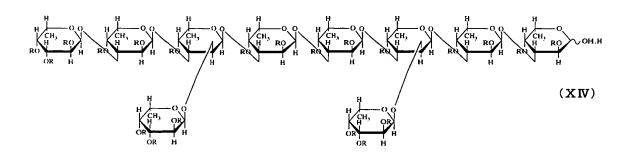
wherein R is H or SO_3H , at least one of R's is SO_3H and n is an integer of 1 or more; and

(3) being converted into smaller molecules by a sulfated fucan-digesting enzyme derived from Alteromonas sp. SN-1009 to generate at least one compound of general formulas (II), (III), (XIII), (XIX), (XV) and (XVI):









and

wherein R is H or SO_3H , at least one of R's is SO_3H in all formulas above; and

a sulfated fucan oligosaccharide of general formula (I):

wherein R is H or SO_3H , at lease one of R's is SO_3H and n is 1 to 5.